

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-09

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R 260430Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

TO USDOC WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY DAR ES

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

SECSTATE WASHDC 1726

UNCLAS ABU DHABI 0813

USDOC FOR MEPD

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: BEXP, TC

SUBJ: EARLY WARNING: MAJOR ROAD PROJECTS IN THE UAE

REF: ENCLOSURE TO ABU DHABI A-058 DTD 5/25/74

1. PLANNING IS PROCEEDING FOR TWO MAJOR ROAD PROJECTS IN UAE. FIRST IS ROUTE OF ABOUT 120 KILOMETERS FROM BEDA ZAYED TO THE LIWA OASIS. SECOND IS ABOUT 40 KILOMETERS FROM MASAFI TO DIBBA, ON THE UAE EAST COAST.

2. CONSULTANT FOR THESE TWO PROJECTS IS DAR AL-HENDESEH, A LEBANESE FIRM. ACCORDING TO THE CONSULTANTS, BOTH OF THESE ROUTES ARE MAJOR ENGINEERING CHALLENGES. THE FIRST ROUTE TRAVERSES LARGE AREAS OF SAND DUNES; THE SECOND MUST BE CARVED OUT OF SOLID ROCK. BOTH ROADS ARE TWO-LANE, 24 FEET-WIDE ASPHALT HIGHWAYS DESIGNED ACCORDING TO INTERNATIONAL SPECIFICATIONS. THE BEDA ZAYID-LIWA ROAD IS PART OF THE SYSTEM LINKING THE UAE TO QATAR, SAUDI ARABIA, AND KUWAIT. IT WILL JOIN 51 KILOMETERS OF NORTH-SOUTH ROAD (WHICH IS BEING BUILT BY KHARAFI, A KUWAITI COMPANY) FROM TARIF ON THE PERSIAN GULF COAST TO BEDA ZAYID IN THE INTERIOR.

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3. TENDERS FOR THE BEDA ZAYID-LIWA ROAD WILL BE ISSUED BY THE ABU

DHABI DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS IN ABOUT ONE MONTH, AND TENDERS FOR THE MASAFI-DIBBA ROAD WILL BE ISSUED BY THE DUBAI PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT IN ABOUT TWO MONTHS. ALTHOUGH DIFFICULT TO ESTIMATE VALUE OF CONTRACT, ABU DHABI HAS BUDGETED A TOTAL OF DH 33 MILLION FOR THE BEQA ZAYID-LIWA ROAD, AND CONSULTANT ESTIMATED EACH PROJECT COSTING AT LEAST \$10 MILLION. INTERESTED US FIRMS MAY ADDRESS INQUIRIES TO: MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS, ATTENTION: SAYYED BUTTI BIN BISHR, UNDER SECRETARY; PO BOX 3, ABU DHABI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: ALL ADDRESSEES PLS INFORM APPROPRIATE US FIRMS OF THESE OPPORTUNITIES AND SUGGEST TO THEM EXPLORING PARTICIPATION IN JOINT VENTURE ARRANGEMENT WITH EXPERIENCED AREA FIRMS. FOR DAR ES-SALAAM: PLS PASS THIS INFORMATION TO FREDERICKS OR KOFF OF NELLO TEER COMPANY. FOR USDOC: PLS ADVISE OF INDUSTRY RESPONSE.

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